accordance with the Policy, mining in Iron ore sector has been opened up for private investment including Foreign Direct Investment.

(d) The policy envisages that foreign trade of minerals will keep in view the mineral inventory position and the long-term need of the country. Wherever, exports take place these should be competitive and efforts will be directed towards exports of minerals in value added form to the extent possible.

Reservation of Iron Ore for PSUs

437. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the known reserves of iron ore in the country, State-wise, including Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that certain proportion of these ore being reserved for Central PSUs and the State PSUs; and

(c) if so, the details there of and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Iron Ore

†438. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that keeping in view the deposits of the iron ore in the country there may arise the crisis of raw material before the steel producing projects in the country;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) the deposits of the iron ore in the country at present; and

(d) the annual likely demand of the steel of this steel producing projects in the country during the ensuing 20 years?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) As per Indian Bureau of Mines the estimated reserves of iron ore, based on UNFC

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.